

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously presented) A method in a notification system for sending a notification message for a user to a messaging server configured for identifying the user based on a destination telephone number in a first format, the method including:
obtaining for the notification message a destination telephone number in a second format;
converting the destination telephone number in the second format to the destination telephone number in the first format based on execution of a mapping rule selected based on a match between the mapping rule and at least a portion of the destination telephone number in the second format; and
outputting the notification message having the destination telephone number having the first format,
wherein the converting step includes matching the mapping rule and the at least a portion of the destination telephone number in the second format based on a prescribed pattern within the destination telephone number in the second format.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the outputting step includes outputting the notification message to the messaging server according to Short Message Peer to Peer (SMPP) protocol.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the messaging server is a Short Message Service Center configured for sending the notification message to a wireless telephone corresponding to the destination telephone number having the first format.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the first format is an international telephone format, and the second format is a national telephone format.

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5. Canceled

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the matching step includes determining the prescribed pattern from a specified regular expression, within the matched mapping rule, that specifies the prescribed pattern.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the converting step further includes replacing the at least a portion of the destination telephone number in the second format with a replacement value specified in the matched mapping rule.

8. Canceled

9. Canceled

10. Canceled

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the first format is an international telephone format, and the second format is a national telephone format.

12. (Currently Amended) A notification system configured for sending a notification message for a user to a messaging server, the messaging server configured for identifying the user based on a destination telephone number in a first format, the notification system including:
a message interface configured for receiving the notification message and having the destination telephone number in a second format;

a dial map configured for converting the destination telephone number in the second format to the destination telephone number in the first format, the dial map executing a selected mapping rule based on a match between the mapping rule and at least a portion of the destination telephone number in the second format; and

a output interface configured for outputting to the messaging server the notification message having the destination telephone number in the first format,

wherein the dial map is configured for storing a plurality of the mapping rules, each mapping rule specifying a corresponding first expression, and a corresponding [[to]] second expression having the first format, the dial map selecting the selected mapping rule based on a match between the destination telephone number having the second format and the corresponding first expression.

13. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12, wherein the output interface is configured for outputting the notification message according to Short Message Peer to Peer (SMPP) protocol

14. Canceled

15. (Previously presented) The system of claim 12, wherein the dial map selects the selected mapping rule based on the corresponding first expression specifying a regular expression having a specified pattern that matches the at least a portion of the destination telephone number having the second format.

16. (Previously presented) A computer readable medium having stored thereon sequences of instructions for sending a notification message for a user to a messaging server configured for

identifying the user based on a destination telephone number in a first format, the sequences of instructions including instructions for performing the steps of:

obtaining for the notification message a destination telephone number in a second format;
converting the destination telephone number in the second format to the destination telephone number in the first format based on execution of a mapping rule selected based on a match between the mapping rule and at least a portion of the destination telephone number in the second format; and

outputting the notification message having the destination telephone number having the first format,

wherein the converting step includes matching the mapping rule and the at least a portion of the destination telephone number in the second format based on a prescribed pattern within the destination telephone number in the second format.

17. (Original) The medium of claim 16, wherein the outputting step includes outputting the notification message to the messaging server according to Short Message Peer to Peer (SMPP) protocol.

18. (Original) The medium of claim 17, wherein the messaging server is a Short Message Service Center configured for sending the notification message to a wireless telephone corresponding to the destination telephone number having the first format.

19. (Original) The medium of claim 18, wherein the first format is an international telephone format, and the second format is a national telephone format.

20. Canceled

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21. (Previously presented) The medium of claim 16, wherein the matching step includes determining the prescribed pattern from a specified regular expression, within the matched mapping rule, that specifies the prescribed pattern.

22. (Original) The medium of claim 21, wherein the converting step further includes replacing the at least a portion of the destination telephone number in the second format with a replacement value specified in the matched mapping rule.

23. Canceled

24. Canceled

25. Canceled

26. (Previously presented) The medium of claim 22, wherein the first format is an international telephone format, and the second format is a national telephone format.

27. (Currently Amended) A notification system configured for sending a notification message for a user to a messaging server, the messaging server configured for identifying the user based on a destination telephone number in a first format, the notification system including:

a message interface configured for receiving the notification message and having the destination telephone number in a second format;

means for converting the destination telephone number in the second format to the destination telephone number in the first format, the converting means executing a selected mapping

rule based on a match between the mapping rule and at least a portion of the destination telephone number in the second format; and

a output interface configured for outputting to the messaging server the notification message having the destination telephone number in the first format,

wherein the converting means is configured for storing a plurality of the mapping rules, each mapping rule specifying a corresponding first expression, and a corresponding [[to]] second expression having the first format, the dial map selecting the selected mapping rule based on a match between the destination telephone number having the second format and the corresponding first expression.

28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27, wherein the output interface is configured for outputting the notification message according to Short Message Peer to Peer (SMPP) protocol.

29. Canceled

30. (Previously presented) The system of claim 27, wherein the converting means selects the selected mapping rule based on the corresponding first expression specifying a regular expression having a specified pattern that matches the at least a portion of the destination telephone number having the second format.